

RECOGNIZING JIM SHEEHAN

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Jim Sheehan, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Jim is a graduate of Stanley County High School in Fort Pierre, SD. Currently he is attending Lake Forest College, where he is majoring in history and political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jim for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING TYLER CUSTIS

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Tyler Custis, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Tyler is a graduate of Custer High School in Custer, SD. He is a recent graduate of Texas A&M University where he majored in economics. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Tyler for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING LUKE LOVING

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Luke Loving, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Luke is a graduate of O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently he is attending the University of South Dakota, where he is majoring in psychology. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Luke for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING CHRISTY VAN BEER

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Christy Van Beek, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Christy is a graduate of Netherlands Reformed Christian School in Rock Valley, IA. Currently she is attending the University of Sioux Falls, where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker who has been

dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Christy for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:24 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 123. An act to authorize appropriations for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund.

H.R. 1413. An act to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to address vulnerabilities in aviation security by carrying out a pilot program to screen airport workers with access to secure and sterile areas of airports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2601. An act to extend the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to collect fees to administer and enforce the provisions relating to the "Do-not-call" registry of the Telemarketing Sales Rule.

H.R. 3079. An act to amend the joint resolution that approved the covenant establishing the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3541. An act to amend the Do-not-call Implementation Act to eliminate the automatic removal of telephone numbers registered on the Federal "do-not-call" registry.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Arizona Water Settlements Act to modify the requirements for the statement of findings.

H.R. 3890. An act to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to impose import sanctions on Burmese gemstones, expand the number of individuals against whom the visa ban is applicable, expand the blocking of assets and other prohibited activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3986. An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4009. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 West Nepeessing Street in Lapeer, Michigan, as the "Turrill Post Office Building".

H.R. 4108. An act to amend section 3328 of title 5, United States Code, relating to Selective Service registration.

H.R. 4343. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify age standards for pi-

lots engaged in commercial aviation operations.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 215. Concurrent resolution supporting the designation of a week as "National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Awareness Week".

H. Con. Res. 261. Concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial anniversary of the sailing of the Navy's "Great White Fleet," launched by President Theodore Roosevelt on December 16, 1907, from Hampton Roads, Virginia, and returning there on February 22, 1909.

H. Con. Res. 264. Concurrent resolution honoring the University of Hawaii for its 100 years of commitment to public higher education.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 797) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve compensation benefits for veterans in certain cases of impairment of vision involving both eyes, to provide for the use of the National Directory of New Hires for income verification purposes, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide an educational assistance allowance for qualifying work study activities, and to authorize the provision of bronze representations of the letter "V" for the graves of eligible individuals buried in private cemeteries in lieu of Government-provided headstones or markers, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House has passed the bill (S. 597) to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 4 years, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

At 4:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 269. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to correct the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1585.

At 5:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4299. An act to extend the Terrorism Insurance Program of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1585) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy,

to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

At 7:29 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4351. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide individuals temporary relief from the alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following bills:

H.R. 365. An act to provide for a research program for remediation of closed methamphetamine production laboratories, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4252. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through May 23, 2008, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 123. An act to authorize appropriations for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1413. To direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to address vulnerabilities in aviation security by carrying out a pilot program to screen airport workers with access to secure and sterile areas of airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2601. An act to extend the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to collect fees to administer and enforce the provisions relating to the "Do-not-call" registry of the Telemarketing Sales Rule; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3079. An act to amend the joint resolution that approved the covenant establishing the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3541. To amend the Do-not-call Implementation Act to eliminate the automatic removal of telephone numbers registered on the Federal "do-not-call" registry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Arizona Water Settlements Act to modify the requirements for the statement of findings; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 3890. To amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to impose import sanctions on Burmese gemstones, expand the number of individuals against whom the visa ban is applicable, expand the blocking of assets and other prohibited activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3986. An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 4009. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 West Neponset Street in Lapeer, Michigan, as the "Turrill Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4108. An act to amend section 3328 of title 5, United States Code, relating to Selective Service registration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 215. Concurrent resolution supporting the designation of a week as "National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H. Con. Res. 261. Concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial anniversary of the sailing of the Navy's "Great White Fleet," launched by President Theodore Roosevelt on December 16, 1907, from Hampton Roads, Virginia, and returning there on February 22, 1909; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H. Con. Res. 264. Concurrent resolution honoring the University of Hawaii for its 100 years of commitment to public higher education; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2461. A bill to authorize the transfer of certain earmarked funds to accounts for operations and activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4330. A communication from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fair Credit Reporting Affiliate Marketing Regulations" (RIN3064-AC83) received on December 7, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4331. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations (including 9 regulations beginning with CGD08-07-040)" (RIN1625-AB09) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4332. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulations (including 9 regulations beginning with CGD11-07-014)" (RIN1625-AB09) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4333. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulations (including 5 regulations beginning with CGD08-07-037)" (RIN1625-AB09) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4334. A communication from the Administrator, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's annual financial audit and management report for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4335. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Source Tracking System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4336. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Illinois; Source-Specific Revision for Cromwell-Phoenix, Incorporated" (FRL No. 8503-5) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4337. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clethodim; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 8340-7) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4338. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Finding of Failure to Attain; California—Imperial Valley Nonattainment Area; PM-10" (FRL No. 8504-2) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4339. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rhode Island: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 8504-4) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4340. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Water Quality Standards for Puerto Rico" (FRL No. 8504-9) received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4341. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4342. A communication from the General Counsel, Government and Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the number of federal agencies that did not fully implement a recommendation made by the Office in response to a bid protest during fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4343. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-190, "Neighborhood Investment Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2007" received on December 10, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4344. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia,